

DEC 21 2006

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**FACSIMILE COVER LETTER**

**To:** Commissioner for Patents  
Examiner Shang, Annan Q.

**Firm:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Art Unit 2623

**Facsimile:** (571) 273-8300

**From:** Thomas F. Presson

**Date:** December 21, 2006

**Re:** FLH Ref No.: 450100-03617  
Serial No: 10/047,502

**Number of Pages:** 3  
(including cover page)

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DEC 21 2006

Applicants : Masahiko Sato, et al.  
Serial No. : 10/047,502  
For : INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS AND FEE CHARGING METHOD THEREOF  
Filed : November 13, 2001  
Examiner : Shang, Annan Q.  
Art Unit : 2623  
Confirmation No. : 3958

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COMMUNICATION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a confirmation of the December 21, 2006 telephone interview with Examiner Shang. The Examiner confirmed that the characterization of the Office Action of December 12, 2006 as a "Final" action was in error. The Examiner stated that there was an error in utilizing the

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wrong form paragraph (see page 8 of the Office Action) and that Applicants should disregard the Conclusion of the December 12, 2006 Office Action.

Accordingly, the Examiner agreed that the December 12, 2006 Office Action should be viewed as a proper Non-Final Office Action in view of the Applicants filing of a Request for Continued Examination on October 25, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,  
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:

  
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